

Notes

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log, available on AFPC's Homepage at <http://www.afpc.af.mil>.

1998 retraining program released

The fiscal year 1998 first-term airman retraining program has been released. Airman who have a DEROS between October 1997 and September 1998 and have at least 36 months time in service for four-year enlistees, or have 60 months time in service for six year enlistees, are eligible to apply. For more information, call Ext. 2434.

WAPS changes for those exempt from SKT

WASHINGTON (AFNS) — The Weighted Airman Promotion System will soon change its formula for people exempt from the Specialty Knowledge Test.

Last year, the Enlisted Evaluation System Review Group recommended a study to consider adjusting the weighted values for those members in SKT-exempt status. Armstrong Laboratory looked at promotion statistics and recommended doubling the Promotion Fitness Examination points for members not taking the SKT.

Air Force officials say the revision will bring the relative weights of time in grade and time in service into line with that of individuals who take both the SKT and PFE.

Normally, WAPS scores are based on maximum scores of 100 points for the PFE,

100 for the SKT, 135 for enlisted performance reports, 25 for decorations, 60 for time in grade and 40 for time in service. The total is a maximum of 460 points.

The SKT-exempt formula doesn't include the 100 SKT points, and promotes based on the remaining 360 points. Therefore, more weight was given to time in grade and time in service than in the standard 460-point WAPS formula, in some cases making it difficult for the more junior members to be promoted.

In one example, a professional military education instructor with two years time in grade and six years' time in service who tested for technical sergeant needed to score more than 100 points to meet the promotion cutoff score during the first three years he tested in that SKT-exempt Air Force specialty.

Under the new method of doubling the PFE score, that same person would have been promoted the first time eligible with a score in the 90s and in the 80s thereafter — comparable scores to other specialties where individuals take both tests.

"This is a major step forward to level the promotion playing field for all members, regardless of their specialty," said Lt. Gen. Michael D. McGinty, Air Force deputy chief of staff, personnel.

In fiscal 1997, this improvement is expected to affect more than 9 percent of all airman who will test for promotion, or about 12,000 members.

The modified WAPS test structure for SKT-exempt airmen will be in place for promotion test cycles that start in January.

Liberty Warrior

"Can do" person of the week



Photo by SrA. Gary Fowler

A1C Jamie Sullivan

48th Mission Support Squadron

Hometown: Boston, Mass.

Time in service: Two years, nine months

Time on station: Nine months

Role in mission: I provide customer support in the orderly room for members of the 48th Mission Support Squadron and wing staff agencies.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years? I would like to have completed my education and have cross-trained into a medical career field.

What do you like the most about Britain? The English people and visiting historical parts of the country.

What would you do to make things better at RAF Lakenheath? Expand the education program to make more classes and labs available for military members.

What is your greatest achievement? Skydiving! I overcame my fear of heights.

Why did you join the Air Force? To travel and pursue my education.

What do you like the best about the Air Force? The experience of working with people, the travel opportunities and exposure to various cultures.

What are your plans for the new year? Pursue my college education and to expand on my physical fitness program.

Awards

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□ The 48th Comptroller Flight was recently named USAFE Financial Management and Comptroller Organization of the year.

□ Sixteen Lakenheath people were named environmental quality champions. They are: **SSgt. Chris Austin**, 492nd Fighter Squadron; **SSgt. James Blair**, 48th Component Repair Squadron; **TSgt. Darryl Brawn**, 48th EMS;

SrA. Jeff Compton, Aerospace Medicine Squadron; **Jim Duval**, 48th Supply Squadron; **SSgt. Gordon Ford**, 48th CRS; **TSgt. Wayne Gish**, 48th EMS; **MSgt. Bill Harris**, 48th Fighter Wing; **TSgt. Chris Hensen**, 48th EMS; **SSgt. Robert Knuth**, 48th Transportation Squadron; **MSgt. Greg Mayer**, 48th SUPS; **TSgt. Rich Shields**, 48th CRS; **SSgt. Dan Skidmore**, 48th CRS; **MSgt. Ed Spengler**, 48th Logistics Support Squadron; **SSgt. William Twiggs**, 48th Security Police Squadron; and **SMSgt. John Walsh**, 48th EMS.

Graduates

Twenty-five Liberty Wing members graduated from Airman Leadership School recently. **SrA. Randy Bitter**, 451st Intelligence Squadron, was a distinguished graduate and **SrA. Nicole Woolingham**, 48th Medical Support Squadron, received the Military Citizenship Award.

The other graduates were **SrA. Kathryn Bergman**, 48th MDSS; **SrA. Steven Burdine**, 48th Medical Operations Squadron; **SrA. Joseph Carter**, 48th Communications Squadron; **SrA. Israel Caughran**, 48th Supply Squadron; **SrA. Kerry Dozier**, 48th Comptroller Flight; **SrA. Derrick Ducharme**, 48th Civil Engineer Squadron; **SrA. Christopher Ingram**, 48th

Component Repair Squadron; **SrA. Wayne Jones**, 48th Equipment Maintenance Squadron; **SrA. Jason Kalinowski**, 48th CRS; **SrA. James Liessmann**, 48th EMS; **SrA. Charles Lundine**, 48th EMS; **SrA. Terrance Mergerson**, 48th CRS; **SrA. Gabriel Nerf**, 48th EMS; **SrA. Jason Olheiser**, 493rd Fighter Squadron; **SrA. Christopher Parker**, 493rd FS; **SrA. Billy Parrish**, 493rd FS; **SrA. Robin Petelo**, 48th EMS; **SrA. Andrea Quick**, 48th Logistics Support Squadron; **SrA. Raymond Smith**, 48th SUPS; **SrA. Joseph Stickel**, 48th CS; **SrA. Thomas Stillman**, 492nd FS; **SrA. Michael Tousley**, 451st IS; and **SrA. Bryan Winningham**, 48th CRS.